

REMARKS

I. Status Of The Claims

Claims 1-3 and 6-10 are pending in this Application.

Claims 6-9 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1, 2, and 10 are allowed.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Noble (U.S. Patent No. 4,805,037) in view of Tohyama (U.S. Patent No. 5,956,536).

With this Amendment, claims 6-9 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claim 3 is amended.

II. Claim Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Noble in view of Tohyama.

With this response, Applicants amend claim 3 so as to depend from claim 1, and respectfully submit that claim 3 is in condition for allowance for at least the reasons for which claim 1 has been allowed.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that this Application is in condition for allowance for which action is earnestly solicited.

If a telephone conference would facilitate prosecution of this Application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4445. **A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.**

Furthermore, in the event that an extension of time is required, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to the above-noted Deposit Account and Order No.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

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By:



Angus R. Gill
Registration No. 51,133

Mailing Address:
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.
345 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10154
(212) 415-8746
(212) 751-6849 (Fax)

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